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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 1ST AUGUST 1966

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CONTENTS

	PAGES
Personnel of the Government of Madras	i
Principal Officers of the Madras Legislative Council	ii
List of Members of the Madras Legislative Council with their Constituencies	iii–v
I Expression of sorrow at the demise of Sri T.T.P. Kunhi Pocker and Sri H.M. Jaganathan former Members of the Madras Legislative Council	1
II Condolence Resolution on the death of Sri SP. K. A. Lakshmanan Chettiar, Member of the Madras Legislative Council	1–2

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
1966

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, the 2nd August 1966.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU) in the Chair.

I.—WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, it is my very first and most pleasant duty to welcome you all to this first meeting after the recent biennial elections to this House. I extend a very hearty welcome to the six re-elected, twelve newly elected, one re-nominated and two newly nominated Members, and offer my congratulations to them. As it sometimes happens in elections, a few of the former Members have not been re-elected. We miss them here very much.

Among the new Members, there are many who have distinguished themselves in various walks of life and are educationally and otherwise highly qualified. I have no doubt that the House will benefit by their valuable and constructive suggestions.

This august House has established great and good traditions and maintained a high standard in debates and preservation of order and decorum. An atmosphere of cordiality has always prevailed amongst the Members here. I do hope that the same spirit of friendliness will continue to prevail in future also and that the Chair will receive your help and co-operation in an abundant measure in preserving the dignity and prestige of this House.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Hindi Pandits

*1 Q.—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any fresh orders have been issued denying the special pay of ten rupees that was being paid to Second Grade Hindi Pandits hitherto; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) Under the old Scheme of Secondary Education, Hindi was taught in Standards VI to XI and a special pay of Rs. 10 was paid to Second Grade Hindi Pandits. Under the reorganised Scheme of Secondary Education, the teaching of Hindi is now confined to Standards IX to XI only and hence the special pay of Rs. 10 to the Second Grade Hindi Pandits has been discontinued.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : May I know, Sir, the date from which this special pay was discontinued, and whether there will be retrospective effect given to the orders and the recovery ordered ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I am sorry, Sir, I do not have the information with me about the date from when this has been discontinued. I have also no information whether any retrospective effect has been given to the decision.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it a fact, Sir, that recovery has been ordered from a very large number of pandits, and have the Government received any representations from the Dhakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha in this regard?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I would like to have notice, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Do the Government understand the difficulties of the teachers, Sir, who are retrenched or who have to face cuts in their salaries on account of the change in the policy of the Government or a change in the syllabus?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, we are governed by rules in force in this matter. Of course, if the pay of certain teachers, who had been drawing a certain pay, is to be reduced, certainly they would be affected.

*2 *Q*.—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any orders have been issued reducing the number of posts of Grade I Hindi Pandits in (i) Private Aided Secondary Schools and (ii) Board Secondary Schools; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Sir, has it not been brought to the notice of the Government that the District Educational Officers have forbidden the appointment of Grade I Hindi Pandits even where they possessed the required qualifications? Actually it has been the case in very many districts; particularly in the Board High Schools and Secondary Schools, Grade I Hindi Pandits have been discontinued. whereas the Sanskrit Pandits and the Urdu Munshis are given the I grade scale of pay.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the Government have decided that Grade I Pandits are not necessary for teaching Hindi in standards IX to XI as the standard of Hindi taught is elementary; just the standard that prevailed in standards VI to VIII. Therefore the Government consider that it is not necessary to have Grade I pandits and that it is enough that we have Grade II Pandits. But there was a representation from

2nd August 1966]

certain Hindi teachers that Grade I pandits should also be permitted to serve. That is under the examination of the Government.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it not a fact, Sir, that the same policy was followed in respect of all language pandits, Tamil, Sanskrit and Hindi, up to now? Now what is the reason for the discriminatory treatment accorded to the Hindi pandits especially when Hindi has been made the national language?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I know Sir, that Hindi is the national language. There is no question of discrimination. It is not also a question of policy that is being followed here. The question is : what is the standard of teaching that is required and what is the type of teachers required to do that teaching. That is all the consideration here. Tamil is taught from the lowest standard. English is taught from III standard. Hindi under the existing system is taught from IX to XI standard. The standard of teaching is only elementary, and therefore what is the type of teachers required for that teaching? It is on that basis that the Government have taken the decision. There is no question of policy, and there is also no question of discrimination of one language against another.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Am I to understand, Sir, that this question is under the consideration of the Government and that they will sympathetically view this matter and sanction at least one I Grade Hindi Pandit in each High School?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The financial implication of the proposal is under the examination of the Government, Sir. I need not assure the hon. Member that the Government have always been sympathetic in considering matters like this.

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : May I know whether it is not a fact that the Government of India have proposed to subsidise the pay of the Hindi Teachers to the extent the State Government do not come forward?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no information, Sir. I would like to have notice.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, are the Government aware of the opinion that only rudimentary Hindi will be taught in standards IX to XI for aged boys? If they think that there will be proportionate teaching according to the age of the pupils, what is the reason for this discrimination and reduction in their salaries ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Again I must say, Sir, that there is no question of discrimination at all in this matter. I only referred to what is prevailing now. It is a statement of fact. Under the existing system, Hindi is taught

in standards IX to XI. It is commenced only in the IX standard. Whether it is rudimentary or not, that is the prevailing system.

திரு. எம். சங்கரலிங்கம் பிள்ளை : தலைவர் அவர்களே, உயர்நிலைப் பள்ளிகளில் 9, 10, 11 வகுப்புகளில் இந்தி கற்பிக்கப்படுகிறது. உயர்நிலைப் பள்ளிகளில் கற்பிக்கச் செல்கின்ற ஆசிரியர்கள் கீழ் வகுப்புகளுக்குச் செல்லும் ஆசிரியர்களை விட உயர்ந்த தரத்தில் நல்ல ஆடைகளை அணிந்து செல்ல வேண்டிய சூழ்நிலை இருப்பதால், நல்ல சட்டை முதலியன போட்டுச் செல்ல வேண்டியிருப்பதால், அவர்களது சம்பள உயர்விற்கு அனுகூலமாக அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்குமா ?

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம் : இப்போதிருக்கிற விதிப்படி எம்மாதிரி சட்டை போட்டுக்கொள்வதில் எவ்வளவு அதிகம் செலவாகிறது என்ற கணக்கு எடுக்கவில்லை.

Assistant Professors

*3 Q.—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of posts of Assistant Professors in Government Arts Colleges that remained vacant during 1965–66; and

(*b*) the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Twelve posts remained vacant for over three months.

(*b*) Due to want of qualified candidates.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : May I know, Sir, whether any action is being taken to see that such a situation does not arise in the future? This does not happen in the case of the private colleges because they appoint the staff sufficiently early in the academic year. May I know whether the Government will empower the Director of Higher Education to make the appointments even in June so that the Government colleges may be fully staffed throughout the year?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the difficulty is not due to the fact that appointments are not made early enough. To make the appointments early enough, candidates must be available. We are starting Government colleges in rural areas. Apart from shortage of qualified teachers, some of the qualified people are not prepared to go to the villages, if they can get an opportunity to serve in the urban areas. These are the difficulties. The Government have also been advertising in the newspapers inviting applications from candidates.

DR. H. V. HANDE : May I know the names of the colleges where these professors are not available?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no information, Sir.

8th August 1966]

திரு. எம். சங்கரலிங்கம் பிள்ளை : தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஆதாரப் பயிற்சிப் பள்ளிப் பரீட்சை எழுதுகிற காலம் வரையில் அவர் களுக்குப் புத்தகம் வாத நிலை இருக்கிறது. அதனால் தேர்வு வருவதற்கு முன்னால் புத்தகம் கொடுக்க அரசாங்கம் முன்வருமா ?

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம் : கனம் அங்கத்தினர் தெரிவித்தது தான் அரசாங்கத்தின் கருத்து. அதுபற்றிய விவரம் சர்க்கார் பரீட்சை கமிஷனரிடமிருந்து கோரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Sir, with regard to the publication of the text-books by the Government, is sufficient data in regard to the exact requirements gathered sufficiently in advance ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir.

Hindi Pandits

* 39 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to recover the Special pay of Rs. 10 given to Grade II Hindi Pandits handling Higher Standards in Board High Schools; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) The Government do not have details in the matter. A report has been called for from the Director of Secondary Education. His report is awaited.

* 40 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received from Hindi Pandits praying for First Grade scales of pay to such Hindi Pandits as are eligible according to the qualifications prescribed; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Fatal accident at Singanallur

* 41 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any fatal accident at Singanallur near Coimbatore in the first week of April 1966 involving an Electricity Board employee on duty;

(*b*) if so, the cause of the accident; and

(*c*) the compensation, if any, proposed to be given to the family of the deceased ?